DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 419 044 UD 032 288

AUTHOR	Kahn, Alfred J.; Kamerman, Sheila B.
TITLE	Big Cities in the Welfare Transition. Cross-National Studies Research Program.
INSTITUTION	Columbia Univ., New York, NY. School of Social Work.
SPONS AGENCY	Ford Foundation, New York, NY.
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	260p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Cross-National Studies Research Program, Columbia University School of Social Work, 622 West 113th Street, New York, NY 10025-9939; phone: 212-854-5444; fax: 212-854-4320.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Evaluative (142)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Case Studies; *Child Welfare; Economic Factors; Elementary Secondary Education; *Federal Legislation; Policy Formation; *Political Influences; *Public Policy; Urban Areas; Urban Problems; *Urban Youth; Welfare Recipients; *Welfare Services
IDENTIFIERS	*Reform Efforts; Welfare Reform

ABSTRACT

This document reports on the efforts of big cities to confront the new politics of child and family policies in the United States. A 35-member Roundtable was convened in 1995 to analyze the initial impacts of the new federal legislation and assess consequences for urban children. Part I contains some brief remarks about the plight of big cities and the factors that leave them with heavy burdens and limited resources. "Big Cities and the New Federalism" by Margaret Weir offers an analysis of urban problems and possibilities under the new federal approach, and "The Permanent Urban Fiscal Crisis" by Ester Fuchs views the cities' fiscal crises. The final section of Part I reviews policy changes, opportunities, and problems created by Public Law 104-193 and sums up national project conclusions. Part II offers a look at specific cities, focusing on: Philadelphia (Pennsylvania); Baltimore (Maryland); Cleveland (Ohio); New York (New York); Boston (Massachusetts); and Los Angeles (California). Part III presents project conclusions, with messages to other cities and some recommendations. Part III also asserts that the city case studies indicate that there is a new federalism, and that the cities are entering it at a disadvantage. The political weakness of cities is clear, and their economic prospects are uncertain. Cities need a fair deal from their states, as discussed, and they need information about policy and the experiences of other cities if they are to face the new American political era. An appendix lists members of the Roundtable. (SLD)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****